

To: Bacalan, Vince[Bacalan.Vince@epa.gov]
From: Mayo, Alice
Sent: Fri 7/28/2017 8:28:53 PM
Subject: example of Santa Monica Ba success story rewrite

Hi Vince,

I'm thinking that by calling it a SMNEP project, we can avoid all the complexities of who did what? Let me know what you think.

Partnerships Driving Success

Restoring Kelp Forests in Santa Monica Bay

Kelp forests are the rainforests of the sea. These highly productive ecosystems provide food and habitat to over 700 species of invertebrates, other algae, and fish.

Over the past 100 years, the Palos Verdes Peninsula lost approximately 75% of its giant kelp canopy due to sedimentation, development, urban runoff and storms. At the same time, the loss of key urchin predators and competitors allowed urchins to overrun the reef and devour the remaining kelp.

In 2013, a Santa Monica NEP restoration effort began to manually cull the urchin population. In partnership with environmental groups, public aquaria, fishermen and researchers, nearly 7000 hours were spent underwater to restore 39 acres of rocky reef.

The kelp forest community has responded positively to the reduction in sea urchin density, and fish populations have improved. Further monitoring efforts will provide a more accurate understanding of ecosystem responses to this work.

